

THE HERALD.  
SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH.

SATURDAY, September 21, 1889.

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## EXTEND THE MAINS.

The People's party municipal convention, among many other excellent things in its platform, said: "The water mains should be extended as soon as possible to every part of the city." This was in connection with the declaration that there must be a plentiful supply and fair distribution of water for all useful purposes, "let the cost be what it may." The ring to this is of the melodious character. It is pleasing to the popular ear, and will be echoed in the breasts of the hundreds who have vainly petitioned, at intervals, for the extension of the mains these many years.

Including the mayor eleven members of the present municipal council belong to the People's party, and all are presumed to be in full sympathy with the platform recently promulgated. Some of the gentlemen were interested in the declaration in framing the declaration. The four Liberals in the council may be relied upon for a hearty approval of the proposition that the mains should be extended to every part of the city. They will certainly vote for every extension suggested. Then, the present government is really unanimous as to the improvement advocated, hence why should there be delay until the February election? If the declaration is to mean anything more than a campaign cry, and we take it that it means all it says or it should have no place in the platform, the good faith of the party should be proven by at once stringing mains, especially along those streets to which they have been promised. People have been clamorous for pure water for domestic uses, and in many instances property owners have been so eager to obtain the fluid from the water works system that they have professed to bear all the expense of putting in the mains from the present terminus to their premises, laying not a cent of cost upon the corporation.

It will not do to say there is insufficient water, and that the extension of the mains will destroy the efficiency of the system. The irrigation season having come to an end there will be an abundance of water until next July, regardless of what the winter may do for us in the way of snow-fall, and if the precipitation shall be equal to that of ordinary winters the flow will be enough to fill the pipes until late in the summer. Nor do we think it can be urged that the corporation cannot afford to extend the mains, because the books show that the water rates, after paying the interest on the cost of the work, are a source of considerable revenue to the city.

The prompt and energetic inauguration of the proposed improvements will be of greater convincing force with the people than all the ante-election promises that can be made, and why should the present People's party government refrain from doing that which the party has promised that it will do if continued in power after February?

A SHEET ISSUED every day (except Sunday) in Ogden precinct, gives vent to its feelings thus: "We think some time will elapse before Colorado will recover from the effects of electing her professional horse thieves to the legislature. By the way, this mentioning of horse thieves recalls the late lamented HORACE GRIFFIN's remarks concerning Democracy." Sure enough! Poor old HORACE, greatly addicted to strong language, once said that every Democrat was not a horse thief, but every horse thief was a Democrat. He changed his mind before he died, so much so that he became the nominee of that party for President. The fun of the thing is further enhanced by the fact that most of the horse thieves above referred to were Republicans, but that doesn't matter. The writer of the above differs from the sage of Chappanqua in that the latter was too decent to hang on to his party when it became rotten, and the former isn't.

## STORMS AND STORM TELLERS.

Some few months ago an Illinois professor launched out with a prediction regarding a great storm that was to sweep the eastern seaboard about the 15th instant, branches of which were to dart inland and involve the country in such a besom of meteorological destruction as it had never before beheld. This was very trying to some people's nerves, and not a few there were who took it all in for a good deal more than it was worth. Undoubtedly a portion of the prophecy was fulfilled, but as the late Professor PHOCROUS said of the Canadian WIGGINS, these fellows make so many predictions that it is difficult for nature to steer clear of all of them.

To fortify the belief which a great many placed in the Illinois savant's predictions, a great storm did occur along portions of our eastern seaboard on the 10th instant. It vented its fury most particularly upon Staten Island, N. J., and contiguous points, where it did a great deal of damage, "uprooting stout trees and whistling about the house corners and chimney tops." Those who wanted to see old ocean on his mettle, as one writer puts it, had only to go on South beach, near St. George, on the island spoken of, at that time. Formerly it was a great place for beer shops and shanties and these were largely patronized, but they were all completely swept away. The view out to sea is described, when the elements were at their fiercest, as awe-inspiring and magnificent, and but for the fact that the tumbling waves were charged with death and desolation, it was unquestionably a spectacle of which one would not soon have tired.

It is hardly fair to brand everyone who ventures a prediction as to what is coming overhead as a fanatic or a crank, because it is often the case that many of them are studious and intelligent, and while their forecasts are based upon correct principles, they are dealing with an unfettered and unregulated subject and thus, often rather otherwise, they come to naught. There are no fixed rules or scales by means of which we can determine the future conduct of the upper deep, although there are certain indications which we

shepherd is as likely to be acquainted with as is the savant, and while these are likely to be more reliable than any other rule of determination, they very often go astray and leave us to wonder why it is that with all the knowledge we have acquired, we know so little after all.

Astronomy is a correct science, but nothing else relating to the great "overhead" is. The cases in which the thorough master of that science has ever made a mistake are too rare to be remembered. When he tells us that the sun or moon will be eclipsed, we are as certain that what he says will take place—nay, more, that all the details as to the extent and character of the phenomena, the places where it will be seen and how much of it will be seen, the time when it will occur, etc.—as we are that the sun will rise to-morrow and set to-morrow evening; because he proceeds upon the same basis by means of which all have previously ascertained as to the rising and setting of the sun, together with its variations, changes and periods. In other words, such phenomena are governed by fixed laws which only need to be acquired to enable the one acquiring them to foretell with exactness, and there is no more mystery in foretelling an eclipse or the transit of a star across the sun's disc, than there is in the knowledge we all possess that the sun sets at times which all may know. It is only that those who have made a study of astronomical and celestial data have gone further than a mere study of apparent diurnal rotations of the god of day and are thus able to tell us more than appears to the naked eye concerning him.

It is different with the real and pretended "weather wizards," however. They pretend to know more by a species of prescience which they class as a special gift, or by some occulted means of knowledge which is not vouchsafed to the common herd. They stand in the same category with and in very close relationship to the astrologers who afflict the world in all parts of it and at all times. The fact is, they know but little and guess at a great deal. As suggested by PHOCROUS, it would be singular indeed if they not "strike it" occasionally, and while they may and do escape the facts of the case a dozen times, if, after that, one generous condition comes to meet their prognostications, the outthinking crowd, more particularly those who are inclined to superstition, are generally willing to overlook the many failures in contemplation of the one success. They are easily satisfied, and it is they who make up the following by means of which such people obtain a standing and are encouraged to go ahead with their nonsense.

No man, nor any set of men, can figure with any certainty upon the meteorological conditions present or to come. By means of comparison, we, or at least the scientific and studious element among us that incline that way, are able to arrive at conclusions which are doubtless more real than mere guesses. By the aid of scientific contrivances we are able to determine whether to-morrow or the day after is likely to be fair or stormy, and yet even this assistance to our mental prefiguring fails us so often that we derive little or no actual assistance from it. The barometer may indicate unusual humidity, gathering clouds and a heavy rainfall, and the conditions may all proceed properly enough up to but not including the rain, as we have witnessed so many hundred times within the present decade within the Great Basin. The reason is that the atmosphere, or some unexplained and invisible element in it, is so absorptive that the moisture is gathered and scattered by it in such tiny quantities and in gossamer-like substance that it is not permitted to reach the earth until it encounters more of the same class of fugitive vapors, and uniting they create sufficient heft for the attraction of gravitation to act upon and bring them down. No one can tell regarding such procedure; it is too intricate a matter and so decidedly unrestrained by rules and fixed principles, that he is wisest who ventures upon nothing more with reference to it than a mere calculation advanced without attempt at proof or request for credence.

Yesterday's storm was a fine one, a generous one. But one thing that we can think of could have improved it in any way—a little more of it. So far as it went it was a perfect model, and its presence was not marred by terrifying flashes of lightning and startling peals of thunder. The earth, or this part of it, is better for the visitation; and the fact that it was not foretold but came like we are informed some of the angels do, unawares, made it none the less welcome. Indeed, we might, perhaps, with all propriety, be thankful to the weather prophets for keeping their "hands off" this time; we have become accustomed to looking for something else when they tell us what is going to happen.

THE PEOPLE'S party having declared itself in favor of doing all that can be done in the way of internal improvements, we are a little curious to know what more the Liberals can promise.

When we talk about a union depot we should talk about a place to land from every one hundred or more trains will move every day.

THE HERALD is in receipt of numbers one and two of the National Democrat, published at Washington, D. C. A notice of it has appeared in these columns already, and it is only necessary now to say that it is no disappointment—that it fulfills all promises and equals all expectations. It is a seven-column quarto, finely printed, the matter is first-class in all departments, and it gives abundant evidence of longevity. We wish it all success.

THREE WEEKS gone, and the jury panel in the CHOSIN case at Chicago just one-third full! If the remainder of the proceedings go at this rate, it would not matter much to the accused whether conviction or acquittal were their ultimate portion, but the fact that they are at present restrained. Their chances for passing hence by means of old age, disease or accident improve with each succeeding day.

## LEARN TRADES.

There are more than one thousand convicts in a Pennsylvania penitentiary, and of the entire number but nine who can be classed as mechanics. Some are recorded as laborers, but the great majority are men without trade or profession and who never had regular occupation. The warden was recently interviewed on the subject of his wards, and said that observation had taught him that the greatest preventive of crime is labor, and on the other hand the chief cause of criminality is idleness. Doubtless his experience is not unlike that of other wardens and of those who have studied the question. The criminals of the country are the loafers, the poverty-stricken men who were given to idleness. The worker, though he be but a day laborer with pick and shovel, knows very little of courts, prosecutions and prisons, while the mechanic is rarely found in the prisoners' box. The men who are too lazy to work and those who undertake to get a living in another way than that appointed by the Almighty are the ones who commit the crimes and fill the jails.

We don't know that it would make any

difference in their conduct if the boys and young men who are running the streets and spending their time in idleness if not in vicious practices, were to be told that their course was one of evil and would certainly lead to disreputable careers and wrecked lives; parents, however, should be influenced by the criminal statistics such as those given by the Pennsylvania warden. Salt Lake youth are no worse than the youth of other cities, but it will not be denied that too many of the boys here are growing up in idleness and without the acquirement of the knowledge and skill which are essential to their future well being. Too many of the young men think it beneath their dignity to learn trades, and others feel that it would be something of a disgrace and reflection on their intelligence to work with their hands. That these will naturally if not necessarily drift to the bad we may be assured. If there were a doubt regarding it the records of penitentiaries and prisons would settle the question.

When the Rio Grande Western adopts the standard gauge next month, the bob-tail street cars, the mules and the narrow-gauge rolling stock should go off in the wilderness and hold a convention to discuss the matter of their future usefulness.

THE PEOPLE of Johnstown are displaying real American pluck and enterprise. They have so far recovered from the flood as to have a new directory issued, and it contains the names of more than five hundred business and professional men. There are in the town thirty-six grocery stores and fifty-one saloons not counting drug stores and barrels in back rooms of business houses.

IT WASN'T so very many years ago that Salt Lake was so eager for railroads that the companies were almost invited to make choice of streets for entrance ways. Have we so many roads now that it is deemed good policy to hedge all others out of the city? The talk of some citizens and officials would convey this impression. And yet the newspapers and the people generally are earnestly inviting the projectors of new transcontinental lines to come via Salt Lake. We fear there is inconsistency in the hearts of individuals, and that others are not familiar with the equities.

Why has it never occurred to some of the boomers to plant "additions" in the interior of some of the uptown blocks? It would be better to do that than run people three or four miles into the country for building sites and truck patches.

If PRESIDENT ADAMS has never heard of the proposed extension of the Utah Central, we presume it will be news to him that Union Pacific engineers are now in the field locating the route for the extension.

THE DEALERS who said that if coal were brought below \$5 per ton they would be compelled to close their mines and give up the business, or sell coal at a loss, seem to be getting along comfortably with coal at \$3.25 a ton. If the price of the fuel were reduced to \$4 these same dealers would continue in the business and would make money.

A GENTLEMAN of Salt Lake, who has been east and just returned, has been taking notes by the way, and some of his memoranda is worthy of consideration. He says, among other things, that Denver, with 150,000 people, hasn't a street on which there is a sidewalk equal to that on the south side of First South street in this city. From what he and others who have been there state, the inference is plain that when our sewerage system is completed, the metropolis of the Rocky mountains will be ahead of us only in population. The same thing can be said of Ugrayembe, Ujiji and other points in the interior of Africa.

THERE WILL be plenty of "free water" during the next six months, but it will have nothing to do with parties or politics.

Oh, What a Cough. Will you heed the warning? The signal perhaps of the sure approach of that more terrible disease consumption? Ask yourselves if you can afford for the sake of saving 50 cents, to run the risk and do nothing for it. We know from experience that Shiloh's Cure will cure your cough. It never fails. This explains why more than a million bottles were sold the past year. It relieves cough and whooping cough at once. Mothers, do not be without it. For lame back, side or chest, use Shiloh's Porous Plaster. Sold by A. C. Smith & Co.

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Mr. Wilson's postoffice address is Lock Box 932. When not out of the city on business, he will be found at the Valley house.  
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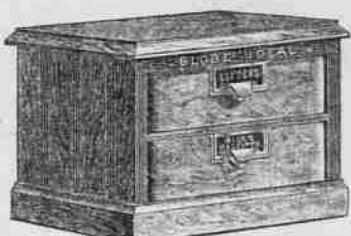
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